

## VFC's reputation for excellence

California's VFC Program prides itself on its streamlined paperwork, its reputation for excellent customer service, helpful field staff, and the minimum of red tape. Sign-up requires just a few brief forms, and vaccine ordering is simple, by fax or mail. Call our Customer Service Office toll free at 877-2GET-VFC (877-243-8832) for help in getting started.

**VACCINES for CHILDREN  
CALIFORNIA**



Vaccines for Children Program  
California Department of Health Services  
Immunization Branch  
2151 Berkeley Way  
Berkeley, CA 94704  
Toll Free Phone: 877-2GET-VFC  
Toll Free Fax: 877-FAXX-VFC



Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor  
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Kimberly Belshé, Secretary  
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Sandra Shewry, Director  
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## Why you should be a VFC Provider



**VACCINES for CHILDREN  
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## What is the VFC Program?

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program was created by Congress in 1993. VFC helps families by providing **free** vaccines to doctors who serve eligible children.

The Program is administered at the national level by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through the National Immunization Program. CDC contracts with vaccine manufacturers to buy vaccines at reduced prices.

In California, the VFC Program is run by the California Department of Health Services, Immunization Branch. Our VFC Program enrolls physicians who have eligible patients so they can order free vaccines. That way, children can get the routine immunizations they need at little or no out-of-pocket cost to the family.



## What vaccines are covered?

You can order vaccines, including DTaP, polio, MMR, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, influenza, Hib, pneumococcal conjugate and varicella. Several combination vaccines are also offered. The vaccines are shipped directly to your office by our distributors. You may order supplies as frequently as every two months.

## What children are eligible?

To be eligible, children must be 18 years of age or younger and meet any one of the following criteria:

- 1) Eligible for Medi-Cal or Child Health and Disability Program (CHDP)
- 2) Uninsured
- 3) American Indian or Alaskan Native

Children who have health insurance that does not cover immunizations may receive VFC vaccines, but only at federally qualified health centers or rural health clinics.

Children enrolled in the Healthy Families program (California's Children's Health Insurance Plan) are not VFC-eligible at this time. (Federal legislation has been proposed to change this.)

Your office must record patients' eligibility status in their charts.

## What doctors can be VFC Providers?

Any California-licensed M.D., D.O., or health care organization serving VFC-eligible children can become a VFC Provider. The VFC Program has earned high marks from California doctors as an excellent program that makes it easier to provide high quality care to their patients.

